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Art Unit: 3727
Response to office action mailed 12/16/2004

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims, in the application:

1(Currently amended). A cup lid for placement onto the rim of a drinking cup having a substantially circular opening at its upper end, comprising:

a cover portion having at least first, and second substantially planar regions, a condiment opening defined in the first substantially planar region, and a drinking access port defined in the second substantially planar region and substantially opposite the condiment opening, said condiment opening being larger than said drinking access port to permit the insertion of condiment into the drinking cup independently of said drinking access port;

a rim portion around the periphery of the cover portion, and sealingly securable to the upper end of the drinking cup;

a hinge formed in the first substantially planar region, the hinge being formed at least partially along a chord and being bisected by a diameter of the cup lid;

a reclosable and tearable fold-back condiment tab in the first substantially planar region which is defined by the hinge and by fault lines formed in the first substantially planar region, the reclosable and tearable fold-back condiment tab having an upstanding post provided thereon; and

a recess in the first substantially planar region which is dimensioned to frictionally receive the post of the condiment tab when it is torn and folded back;

whereby when the condiment tab is torn and folded back, the condiment opening is accessible and said condiment tab covers a remaining portion of said first planar region, which lies within an inner portion of said cover portion; and

wherein said first planar region extends over at least about half of the surface of said cover.

2.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said cup lid is dome shaped and is such that said cover portion is disposed above said rim portion.

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- 3.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said drinking access port is in the peripheral region of said cover portion.
- 4.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said drinking access port provides a readily accessible drinking opening.
- 5.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said drinking access port is defined by a hanging chad such that when said hanging chad is dislocated from said drinking access port, a drinking opening is provided.
- 6.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said first substantially planar region and said hinge are disposed below said second substantially planar region.
- 7.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said hinge is an U-shaped hinge.
- 8.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said fault lines are pre-cut.
- 9.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said fault lines are scored.
- 10.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said rim portion has a channel defined therein, and a skirt downwardly extending therefrom such that when said cup lid is sealingly secured to the upper end of the drinking cup, the rim of the drinking cup is received in said channel of said cup lid and frictionally fitted therein.
- 11.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said cup lid is formed from a sheeted material which has an extrusion grain, and wherein said hinge has an longitudinal axis which is parallel to said extrusion grain.
- 12.(original) The cup lid of claim 7, wherein said cup lid is formed from a sheeted material which has an extrusion grain, and wherein said U-shaped has an longitudinal axis which is substantially perpendicular to said extrusion grain.

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13.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said cup lid has at least one stop means which is adjacent to said hinge, on the same side as said recess in said first substantially planar region, so as to prevent said tearable fold-back condiment tab from being torn beyond said hinge.

14.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said upstanding post of said tearable fold-back condiment tab has grip means which aids in the tearing of said condiment tab.

15.(original) The cup lid of claim 1, wherein said cup lid is flat and is such that said first, and second substantially planar regions of said cover portion lie substantially in the same plane.

16.(Currently amended) The cup lid of claim 15, wherein said drinking access port is defined by a tearable fold-back drinking tab extending into said rim portion such that when said drinking tab is torn and folded back a part of said rim portion is torn [I.] away from said rim portion to provide of said cup lid, a drinking opening is accessible.

17.(original) The cup lid of claim 15, wherein said drinking access port is defined by a tear tab such that when said tab is torn and dislocated away from said drinking access port, a drinking opening is accessible.